

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) An image data distribution system, ~~comprising: comprising;~~
~~an image data transmitting apparatus that includes,~~
a request information receiving ~~unit that receives~~ ~~means for receiving~~ client's request information transmitted by way of ~~a network, a network;~~
a request information analyzing ~~unit that analyzes~~ ~~means for analyzing~~ the request information received by the request ~~information receiving unit, information receiving means;~~
a multiple viewpoint image supply ~~unit means~~ which selects necessary image data from coded and stored multiple viewpoint image data of images taken by a plurality of cameras, based on viewpoint information from the request information analyzed by the request information ~~analyzing unit analyzing means~~ and decodes and supplies ~~selected data, selected data;~~
an image generating ~~unit means~~ which, based on image data supplied from the multiple viewpoint image ~~supplying unit~~ ~~supplying means~~, generates image data of an image viewed from a ~~predetermined~~ viewpoint in conformity with the ~~request information, request information;~~
an image synthesizing ~~unit that synthesizes~~ ~~means for synthesizing~~ a plurality of images data generated by the image ~~generating unit~~ ~~generating means~~, based on display unit information from the ~~request information, request information;~~
a coding ~~unit that encodes~~ ~~means for coding~~ image data synthesized by the image ~~synthesizing unit, synthesizing means;~~
a transmitting ~~unit that transmits the encoded~~ ~~means for transmitting coded~~ image data ~~to the network; and by the coding means to the network;~~
~~an image data receiving apparatus that includes,~~
a receiving ~~unit that receives the encoded~~ ~~means for receiving the coded~~ image data via ~~the network, the network;~~

a decoding unit that decodes the encoded ~~means for decoding the coded-image data received by the receiving unit, receiving means;~~

an image processing unit that processes the ~~means for processing-decoded image data by the decoding means so as to be displayable on a display unit, the display unit displaying means;~~
~~the display means for displaying image data processed by the image processing unit, processing means;~~

a request information input unit that allows ~~means for allowing input of the client's request information, and information; and~~

a request information transmitting unit that transmits ~~means for transmitting the request information to the network.~~

2. (Currently Amended) An image data transmitting apparatus, ~~comprising: comprising:~~
a request information receiving unit that receives ~~means for receiving client's request information transmitted by way of a network;~~

a request information analyzing unit that analyzes ~~means for analyzing the request information received by the request information receiving unit, receiving means;~~

a multiple viewpoint image supply unit ~~supply means~~ which selects necessary image data from coded and stored multiple viewpoint image data of images taken by a plurality of cameras, based on viewpoint information from the request information analyzed by the request information analyzing unit ~~analyzing means~~ and decodes and supplies selected data;

an image generating unit ~~generating means~~ which, based on image data supplied from the multiple viewpoint image supplying unit ~~supplying means~~, generates image data of an image viewed from a ~~predetermined~~ viewpoint in conformity with the request information;

an image synthesizing unit that synthesizes ~~means for synthesizing a plurality of images data~~

generated by the image ~~generating unit~~~~generating means~~, based on display unit information from the request information;

a coding ~~unit that encodes means for coding~~ image data synthesized by the image ~~synthesizing unit~~~~synthesizing means~~; and

a transmitting ~~unit that transmits the encoded means for transmitting coded~~ image data ~~by the coding means~~ to the network.

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Currently Amended) The image data distributing system according to Claim 1, ~~further comprising: further comprising~~

_____ a management information adding ~~unit that adds means for adding~~ management information for enabling access to the image data of individual viewpoints and random access, to the multiple viewpoint image data.

5. (Currently Amended) The image data transmitting apparatus according to Claim 2, ~~further comprising: further comprising~~

_____ a management information adding ~~unit that adds means for adding~~ management information for enabling access to the image data of individual viewpoints and random access, to the multiple viewpoint image data.

6. (Currently Amended) An image data distribution system, ~~comprising: comprising:~~
~~_____ an image data transmitting apparatus that include,~~

a request information receiving ~~unit that receives means for receiving~~ client's request information

transmitted by way of a network, network;

a request information analyzing unit that analyzes means for analyzing the request information received by the request information receiving unit, receiving means;

a multiple viewpoint image supply unit that supplies means for supplying multiple viewpoint image data, image data;

an image generating unit generating means which, based on viewpoint information from the request information analyzed by the request information analyzing unit analyzing means, receives input of necessary image data from the multiple viewpoint image supply unit supply means and generates image data of an image viewed from a ~~predetermined~~-viewpoint in conformity with the request information, request information;

an image synthesizing unit that synthesizes means for synthesizing a plurality of images data generated by the image generating unit generating means, based on display unit information from the request information, request information;

a coding unit that encodes means for coding image data synthesized by the image synthesizing unit, synthesizing means;

a transmitting unit that transmits encoded means for transmitting coded image data to the network; and by the coding means to the network;

an image data receiving apparatus that includes,

a receiving unit that receives the encoded means for receiving the coded image data via the network, the network;

a decoding unit that decodes the encoded means for decoding the coded image data received by the receiving unit, receiving means;

an image processing unit that processes means for processing decoded image data ~~by the decoding means~~ so as to be displayable on a display unit, the display unit means;

~~the display means for displaying image data processed by the image processing unit; processing means;~~

a request information input unit that allows ~~means for allowing~~ input of the client's request information; ~~request information;~~

a request information transmitting unit that transmits ~~means for transmitting~~ the request information to the network; ~~and the network;~~ and

a judgment unit that judges ~~judgement means for judging~~ whether the received image data is of two-dimensional image data or stereoscopic image data.

7. (Currently Amended) An image data receiving apparatus, ~~comprising~~ comprising:

a receiving unit that receives, by way of network, ~~means for receiving~~ coded image data of an image viewed from a viewpoint in conformity with client's request information transmitted by way of a network;

a decoding unit that decodes ~~means for decoding~~ the coded image data received by the receiving unit; ~~receiving means;~~

an image processing unit that processes ~~the means for processing~~ decoded image data by the decoding means so as to be displayable on a display unit; ~~the display unit means;~~

~~the display means for displaying image data processed by the image processing unit; processing means;~~

a request information input unit that allows ~~means for allowing~~ input of request information of a client;

a request information transmitting unit that transmits ~~means for transmitting~~ the request information to the network; and

a judgment unit that judges judgement means for judging whether the received image data is of two-dimensional image data or stereoscopic image data.

8. (Currently Amended) An image data distribution system, comprising: comprising;
an image data transmitting apparatus that includes,
a request information receiving unit that receives means for receiving client's request information transmitted by way of a network, a network;
a request information analyzing unit that analyzes means for analyzing the request information received by the request information receiving unit, receiving means;
a multiple viewpoint image supply unit that supplies means for supplying multiple viewpoint image data, image data;
an image generating unitgenerating means which, based on viewpoint information from the request information analyzed by the request information analyzing unitanalyzing means, receives input of necessary image data from the multiple viewpoint image supply unit supply means and generates image data of an image viewed from a predetermined viewpoint in conformity with the request information, request information;
an image synthesizing unit that synthesizes means for synthesizing a plurality of images data generated by the image generating unitgenerating means, based on display unit information from the request information, request information;
a coding unit that encodes means for coding image data synthesized by the image synthesizing unit, and synthesizing means;
a transmitting unit that transmits the encoded means for transmitting coded image data to the network; and by the coding means to the network;
an image data receiving apparatus that includes,

a receiving unit that receives the encoded means ~~for receiving the coded-image data via the network, the network;~~

a decoding unit that decodes the encoded means ~~for decoding the coded-image data received by the receiving unit, receiving means;~~

an image processing unit that processes the means ~~for processing decoded image data by the decoding means so as to be displayable on a display unit, the display unit means;~~
~~the display means for displaying image data processed by the image processing unit, processing means;~~

a request information input unit that allows means ~~for allowing input of the client's request information, request information;~~

a request information transmitting unit that transmits means ~~for transmitting the request information to the network, and the network; and~~

an identification information adding unit that adds means ~~for adding to the image data to be transmitted a piece of information that indicates whether the image data is of two-dimensional image data or stereoscopic image data.~~

9. (Currently Amended) An image data transmitting apparatus, comprising: ~~comprising:~~

a request information receiving unit that receives means ~~for receiving client's request information transmitted by way of a network;~~

a request information analyzing unit that analyzes means ~~for analyzing the request information received by the request information receiving unit, receiving means;~~

a multiple viewpoint image supply unit that supplies means ~~for supplying multiple viewpoint image data;~~

an image generating unit ~~generating means~~ which, based on viewpoint information from the

request information analyzed by the request information ~~analyzing unit~~analyzing means, receives input of necessary image data from the multiple viewpoint image ~~supply unit~~supply means and generates image data of an image viewed from a ~~predetermined~~-viewpoint in conformity with the request information;

an image synthesizing ~~unit that synthesizes means for synthesizing~~ a plurality of images data generated by the image ~~generating unit~~generating means, based on display unit information from the request information;

a coding ~~unit that encodes means for coding~~ image data synthesized by the image ~~synthesizing unit~~synthesizing means;

a transmitting ~~unit that transmits the encoded means for transmitting coded image data by the coding means~~ to the network; and

an identification information adding ~~unit that adds means for adding~~ to the image data to be transmitted a piece of information that indicates whether the image data is of two-dimensional image data or stereoscopic image data.

10. (Currently Amended) An image data receiving apparatus, ~~comprising: comprising:~~
a receiving ~~unit that receives, by way of a network, means for receiving~~ coded image data of an image viewed from a viewpoint in conformity with client's request information ~~transmitted by way of a network~~;

a decoding ~~unit that decodes means for decoding~~ the coded image data received by the ~~receiving unit~~receiving means;

an image processing ~~unit that processes the means for processing~~ decoded image data ~~by the decoding means~~ so as to be displayable on a display ~~unit, the display unit means~~;

~~the display means for displaying~~ image data processed by the image ~~processing unit~~processing means;

a request information input unit that allows ~~means for allowing~~ input of request information of a client;

a request information transmitting unit that transmits ~~means for transmitting~~ the request information to the network; and

an identification information adding unit that adds ~~means for adding~~ to the received image data a piece of information that indicates whether the image data is of two-dimensional image data or stereoscopic image data.